

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, October 20, 2005

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, October 20, 2005, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Mohamed Okdie
Willie Hampton
Arthur Blackwell II **(ABS)**

Department Personnel Present

AC Walter Martin
DC Chester Logan
DC Tony Saunders
Cmdr. James Tolbert
Sgt. Walter Clement
P.O. Michael Woody
P.O. Kent Cooper

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Walters
William Adams
Joanne Cooper-Reid
Media

RECORDERS

Terence Bell
Robert Brown

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Comm. Ramirez called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:05 pm.

Comm. Ramirez acknowledged the presence of Board members and staff.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

• **Thursday, October 13, 2005**

MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to approve the above Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Okdie** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

There was no report from the chair.

4. **SECRETARY'S REPORT – EXEC. DIR. GOSS**

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
2005 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	22	1222
2004 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	16	1327

- The Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) closed a total of **23** cases this week.
- The Office of the Chief Investigator submitted **2** cases to the Chief's Office.
- The Chief's Office has reviewed and returned **5** cases to OCI.

5. PRESENTATION/REPORT-CHIEF OF POLICE

October 20, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 41

Detroit Police Department

Report to the Board of Police Commissioners

“Building a Safer Detroit Through Community Partnerships”

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take the guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Narcotics/ Gang Enforcement

During the period of October 11th-October 16th, Narcotics /Gang Enforcement conducted 18 search warrants and 32 street enforcement actions within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- 20 Felony arrests
 - 103 Misdemeanor arrests
 - 4 Juveniles detained
 - 589.4 Grams of cocaine, 28.3 grams of heroin, 1033.9 grams of marijuana and 29 pills, street value **\$291,053.00**
 - **\$4,513.00** in U.S. Currency
- Confiscated:
- 7 Handguns

Homicide

On October 10th, officers from Homicide responded to the 16000 block of Telegraph on a “Fatal Shooting” run. An investigation revealed that a man went to this location to borrow money from a woman he knew. An argument ensued and ultimately ended up in a physical altercation. The man left the location and returned later to retrieve his hat, which was knocked off during the altercation. The woman produced a handgun and fatally shot the man in the chest. As a result of this investigation the woman was arrested without incident for “Murder-First Degree,” “Homicide-Felony Murder” and “Felony Firearm.” Confiscated was one (1) handgun.

Special points of interest:

• Next meeting:

Thursday October 27, 2005
@3:00 P.M.

Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien Suite 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

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Violent Crimes Task Force

On October 13th, officers from the Violent Crimes Task Force in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Michigan State Police in executing search warrants within the city of Detroit for “Operation Blue Diamond.” The focus of the operation is to eliminate a money laundering circuit which extends from Michigan to Hawaii. Confiscated in the raids were several luxury vehicles, currency and computer equipment.



It's time once again for Detroiters to stand together for Angels' Night, October 29-31. Each year, roughly 50,000 Angels' Night volunteers patrol city streets, turn on their porch lights and watch over their neighborhoods. We need the help of every caring Detroiters to continue to keep our city safe. **For Additional Information, Please call the Volunteer Office Number at (313) 224-4415.**

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Police / Community Intervention

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Eastern District



On October 14th, officers of the Eastern District responded to the 13000 block of Gratiot on a "Breaking and Entering Alarm" run. While at this location officers observed two (2) men on the roof of the store and ordered the men to the ground. The men did not comply. The officers then called for the assistance of the Detroit Fire Department, who brought a ladder to assist the officers. Once on the roof the two (2) men were arrested without incident. Further investigation revealed a large hole in the roof and miscellaneous items scattered over the roof top.

Northeastern District

On October 12th, officers from Northeastern District responded to the 1500 block of E. Warren on a "Breaking and Entering—Business" run. An investigation disclosed that a man cut a hole in the fence of this location and entered onto the premises and then into the warehouse. As a result of an investigation and with the assistance of several employees one (1) man was arrested without incident for "Breaking and Entering—Business," "Larceny from a Building" and "Habitual 4th Offense."

Central District

On October 14th, officers from the Central District responded to the 1100 block of W. Warren on a "Robbery/Armed—Business" run. An investigation revealed that a man walked into the store as if he were going to purchase something and waited for the cash register to open. Once the register was open the man produced a hand gun and demanded all of the money. As a result of an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Robbery/Armed—Business," "Felon in Possession," "Felony Firearm" and "Habitual 2nd Offense."

Western District

On October 15th, officers of the Western District responded to the 18000 block of Shaftsbury on a "Shooting" run. An investigation revealed that two (2) brothers engaged in argument about consuming narcotics, when one man attempted to leave the location the brother shot him twice in the back. While attempting to discard the weapon the man shot himself in the hand. Subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested without incident. Confiscated was one (1) handgun.



Southwestern District



On October 14th, officers of the Southwestern District while on patrol in the area of Hubbell and Plymouth observed a man wearing dark clothing peering into a window in the rear of an apartment building. The officers recalled a high rate of burglaries occurring in the area and investigated the man. Subsequent to their investigation the man was arrested without incident for "Carrying a Dangerous Weapon" and "Felon in Possession." Confiscated was one (1) pistol gripped/short barrel shot gun.

Northwestern District

On October 12th, officers of the Northwestern District, while on patrol in the area of Fenkell and Greydale, observed a man loitering in the street with a silver object resembling a gun in his hand. When the officers attempted to investigate the man he ran. With the officers in pursuit through an alley, the man turned and fired several shots at the officers. The man was subsequently arrested without further incident for "Assault with Intent to Murder," "Felony Assault," "Felony Firearm." Confiscated was one (1) handgun.

6. REQUEST PERMISSION TO ACCEPT GRANT

The State of Michigan Department of Community Health Crime Victim Services Commission has amended the Rape Counseling Center's Victim of Crime Assistance (V.O.C.A.) grant, for fiscal year 2005-2006. The additional funds will allow for the inception of a [Homicide Counseling Center](#). The previous amount requested and awarded was **\$522,494** and has been increased by **\$317,976** for a total of **\$840,470 in grant funding with a 20% in kind match.**

Chairperson Ramirez asked was there anyone here to answer questions for this grant.

DC Tony Saunders introduced Ms. Joanne Cooper-Reid who will be answering questions about the grant.

Chairperson Ramirez asked if this is a new program for the Homicide Unit.

Joanne Reid stated yes, we are stepping in where SOSAD left off.

Chairperson Ramirez asked how do you receive your referrals.

Joanne Reid stated we are housed in the Homicide Unit and we receive a copy of their Police Compliant Reports.

Chairperson Ramirez asked what happens when a homicide occurs.

Joanne Reid stated we get a copy of the report and contact the victim and offer our services.

Comm. Holley asked what services do you provide.

Joanne Reid stated we provide crisis intervention, follow-up counseling, support groups and funeral arrangements for the family.

Comm. Holley stated SOSAD only dealt with children, but you are dealing with the entire family.

Joanne Reid stated that's correct.

Comm. Holley stated you are housed in the Homicide Unit. Are you representing the Police Department?

Joanne Reid stated this falls under the Detroit Police Department.

Comm. Holley stated the reason for the question is he wanted to know if the Police Department will benefit from this.

Joanne Reid stated yes.

Comm. Holley asked where will you get the 20% matching funds from.

Joanne Reid stated that the 20% matching funds comes from our staff. She stated we have 16 employees and 13 of them are supported by the VOCA grant.

Chairperson Ramirez stated the match is in-kind.

Joanne Reid stated yes, that's correct.

Chairperson Ramirez stated this is a great grant and we need that caring from the department.

Chairperson Ramirez asked if the Rape Counseling Center, Domestic Violence Unit and the Homicide Unit are under the same umbrella.

Joanne Reid stated the umbrella is the Detroit Police Department Rape Counseling Center. She stated we have Social Workers at the Domestic Violence Unit to support those victims. With this grant we will have Social Workers within the Homicide Unit.

Chairperson Ramirez asked if they work with any other agencies.

Joanne Reid stated we collaborate as needed. We are working with Children's Hospital and Sinai Grace Hospital.

Chairperson Ramirez asked how long do you provide individual or group counseling.

Joanne Reid stated with sexual assault victims, we provide counseling for as long as it is needed. With Homicide counseling, we will assess the situation, but we will go beyond six weeks.

Chairperson Ramirez stated the reason she asked about the relationship with other agencies is because of individuals with limited English.

Joanne Reid stated we utilize Open Arms. There is also an agency for victims of murdered children that has staff who are bilingual and we use them as well.

Chairperson Ramirez stated there is also La-vida.

Joanne Reid stated we use La-vida too.

Comm. Okdie asked what are the credentials of the staff that perform these duties?

Ms. Reid stated all of the Social Workers have an MSW and are state licensed.

Comm. Okdie asked if they hired from the outside or if they police officers with these credentials.

Ms. Reid stated they are hired through the city of Detroit through civil service.

Chairperson Ramirez stated this amended increase is to hire Social Workers and Victims' Advocates.

Ms. Reid stated yes.

Comm. Hampton asked this does increase the personnel.

Joanne Reid stated yes.

Chairperson Ramirez asked is this to rehire any laid off Social Workers?

Joanne Reid stated yes. She stated there were two Social Workers laid off and we have one of them back and this will allow us to rehire the other one.

MOTION: **Comm. Holley** made the motion to accept the above Grant.

SECOND: **Comm. Okdie** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. Hampton stated the Disciplinary Appeals Subcommittee has an amendment to the penalty recommended/approved in the matter of Officer Willie Steverson. Omitted was an order by the Trial Board that Officer Steverson not be assigned to the courtroom of the official with whom he had the "confrontation". He therefore proposed that the recommendation be amended as follows:

Recommendation: **Uphold the decision (finding of guilty and order) of the Trial Board, but reduce the suspension to one day without pay.**

MOTION: **Comm. Hampton** made the motion to approve the above Recommendation.

SECOND: **Comm. Okdie** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Chairperson Ramirez stated there is a proposed new hire. There are three individuals that we are putting forth who will be hired as Police Commissioner Investigators assigned to the Office of the Chief Investigator.

Comm. Holley asked where is the money coming from.

Chairperson Ramirez stated it is within our budget.

Comm. Holley asked are we going to bring back the people we laid off or are these new hires.

Exe. Dir. Goss stated new hires.

Comm. Holley asked why aren't we looking at the people we laid off.

Exe. Dir. Goss stated because of personnel reasons that we cannot discuss at this time.

Comm. Holley asked if he was being over sensitive.

Comm. Okdie stated "No, I don't think so. "

Chairperson Ramirez stated we will table this for now and revisit it with the Personnel Subcommittee.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 27, 2005 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters, Room 328-A
1300 Beaubien
Detroit, MI 48226

9. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Ms. Walters stated she was horrified when she watched a man being beaten by the New Orleans Police Department. She stated she mentioned that because she wanted to link it to the grant that was approved. She would hope those officers get invited to a treatment agency and not wait until they figure out that they have a problem.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb